such as diabetes, coronary artery disease, cancer, mental health and hypertension;

(b) if so, how this data bank would help Government in taking policy decisions; and

(c) the States where this pilot project would be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) At prsent, no annual surveys are undertaken to access data on the treatment of diseases such as diabetes, coronary artery disease, mental health and hypertension etc. As regards cancer, ICMR under its National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) collects and analyses data periodically through the hospital and population based cancer registries.

However, during the Tenth Five Year Plan, there is a proposal under integrated disease surveillance project to create sentinel centres for communicable and non-communicable diseases which will strengthen the existing surveillance system at the District, State and National level.

Shortage of doctors in GB Pant Hospital

1531. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cardiology Department of the super-speciality GB Pant Hospital is suffering from shortage of doctors;

(b) if so, the number of doctors required in various departments of the GB Pant Hospital and the existing strength; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to fulfil the vacancies so that the common people are not denied the opportunity of treatment at this prestigious hospital?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 79 sanctioned post of Teaching Specialists of Central Health Service in various departments of G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi, 24 posts are lying vacant. The department-wise vacancy position is as under:-

Department	Sanctioned Post	Filled	Vacant
Cardiology	11	03	08
C.T.V.S.	07	04	03
Gastroenterology	05	05	—
G.I.S. Surgery	03	01	02
Surgery	02	02	—
Neurology	06	04	02
Neurosurgery	07	05	02
Psychiatry	05	05	—
Pathology	05	05	—
Microbiology	05	04	01
Biochemistry	05	04	01
Anaesthesia	12	08	04
Radiology	06	05	01
TOTAL:	79	55	24

Besides, out of sanctioned 17 posts of Medical Officer/Senior Medical Officer/Chief Medical Officer, only one post is vacant.

(c) Exemption has been sought from the provisions of the Department of Personnel and Training's Office Memorandum No. 2/8/2001-PIC dated 16.5.2001 regarding optimization of direct recruitment to civilian posts, so that these posts can be filled up expeditiously.